

2010 County of Ventura Homeless Survey

Come together to end homeless crisis in V.C.

By Cathy Brudnicki
In the 1980s, I was working for a retail operation and was also board chairwoman for our local American Red Cross chapter. At the time, the Red Cross owned an old Victorian house on Santa Clara Street in Ventura that was used for meetings and storage space. The Red Cross officers were in an office building next door.

One cold and rainy night, a homeless man was found huddled in a doorway in downtown Ventura. He had died from exposure. In the morning, the executive director of the Ventura Chapter of the Red Cross, called me with the idea that the Red Cross could open up the house on Santa Clara Street and let homeless folks sleep indoors, so that no one else would die on the streets.

Editorial: Homelessness can be fatal

Today, at least 21 people who died homeless in Ventura County in 2009 will be memorialized at 3 p.m. at Plaza Park at Chestnut and Santa Clara streets in downtown Ventura. This is the second year the Unitarian Universalist Church has organized such a memorial.

Take the Ojai Valley Family Shelter, which rotates from church to church, or the Consejo Valley Meal and Shelter Program. These are just a few of many groups trying to reduce the suffering of local residents. The county of Ventura is fortunate to have the non-profit services that exist.

Homeless tally helps secure federal funding

By Teresa Rochester, Kathleen Wilson

Forty volunteers fanned out across Ventura County last year, tallying nearly 12,000 homeless people from the 1,961

in being revised has successfully generated the buying of various commodities. "It's slow or it's very slow, but it would be effective if someone charges through single-hand only," Keller said. "It has to have someone."



Coalition puts muscle behind plan; secures funds

By Susan England
The Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition was founded in 1983 as a collaborative for housing advocates, service providers and local government representatives interested in the issues of homelessness and low-income housing. The coalition maintains a desk in the risk of low-income lead paint in the county 1995 has a care system. Coordinating funding and opening for placement. One been success million in cery of people the homeless for permanent housing and management leverage and the invaluable submitted. Coordinating the and requires in a Continuum ing HUD) chided imping access a homeless) The VCE a broad cross videns, great vate-sector

and providing services to the homeless. This all-volunteer group realized that the new HUD requirements of the development of a 10-year plan to end homelessness and a biennial street count of homeless persons stated its financial and technical capacity.

2010 COUNTY OF VENTURA HOMELESS SURVEY

LOCATION: _____

A. Physical Characteristics:

1) Gender: Female Male

2) Ethnicity: American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian/Pacific Islander Black or African American Hispanic or Latino White Other _____ (Please Record Other Ethnicity)

3) Age: 13-17 18-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-49 50-54 55-59 60-64 65-69 70+ Other _____

B. Geo-History:

4) Where were you born?

a) Country: U.S. Other _____ (Please Record Other Country)

b) If U.S. born, which State: California Other _____ (Please Record Other State)

What City in the U.S.: _____ (Please Record City)

5) In what city and state did you FIRST become homeless?

(Please Record City) _____ (Please Record State) _____

Faces of the homeless

Advocates meet to discuss 10-year plan
By Teresa Rochester

Some people in the county are homeless. Some are in the process of becoming homeless. Some are in the process of helping others become homeless. Some are in the process of helping others help others become homeless.



6) How long have you been currently homeless? _____

7) Have you been currently living on the street and/or in shelters for at least 1 year? Yes No

7a) Have you slept in a vehicle such as a car, truck, van, or trailer during the past year? Yes No

8) How many times have you experienced homelessness during the past 3 years? _____ times

9) How old were you the first time you became homeless? _____ (Please Record Approximate Age)

10) What city do you consider to be your home? _____

11) How long have you been living in the above city? _____

12) Are you a resident of Ventura County? Yes No

What City? _____

13) Do you have family who live in Ventura County? Yes No

What City? _____

14) Do you have friends who live in Ventura County? Yes No

What City? _____

15) Have you ever worked in Ventura County? Yes No

What City? _____

16) Are you currently working in Ventura County? Yes No

What City? _____

17) Have you ever attended school in Ventura County? Yes No

What City? _____

YES TO IT:

17a) Check all that apply: _____

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This project was organized and coordinated by Vanessa Padilla, who interned at VCHHC in her final semester at CSUCI. This study would not have been possible without her efforts.

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For a copy of this report visit the web site of
the Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition www.vchhc.org
or
Urban Initiatives at www.urban-initiatives.org

The Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition is made up of more than 100 representatives from public and private agencies that work together to actively plan, develop, and implement programs as part of a community-wide strategy designed to address the service and housing needs of the county's homeless population.

Urban Initiatives consists of several community-based and faith-based institutes that respond to the economic, housing, and social needs of neighborhoods, cities, and counties from local community, regional, national, international, and faith-based perspectives and has completed over 40 assessments for local government and private organizations throughout Southern California that have focused on affordable housing, business development and education for micro-businesses, fair housing, homelessness, migrant farming, and street vending.

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Executive Summary

The 2010 County of Ventura Homeless Survey was administered to 431 homeless adults or more than one of every four adults (27%) who were counted in the 2010 County of Ventura Homeless Count. The survey instrument was designed to collect a wide-range of information on homeless individuals as well as to assess their service needs using questions focusing on several areas including: Domestic Violence, Education, Ethnicity, Familial Status, Geo-History, Health Care, Income, Mental Health History, Residency, Substance Abuse History, Veteran's status, etc.

Such information includes:

- ***What is your total current monthly income?***
- ***More than one-third (39%) or 166 stated that they did not have any monthly income;***
- ***More than half (58%) or 250 stated that they had a monthly income of \$300 or less;***
- ***Nearly three-fourths (73%) or 314 stated that they had a monthly income of \$800 or less;***
- ***Nearly 90% (88%) or 378 stated that they had a monthly income of \$1,000 or less.***
- ***What Is The Highest Grade Of School That You Completed?***

Three-fourths (75%) or 324 of all survey respondents completed high school, more than half (56%) or 183 completed some junior college, college, or post-graduate education, 6% or 25 finished college.

- ***Have Any Of The Following Health Problems Impacted Your Daily Functioning for Three (3) Months Or More?***

More than half (55%) or 239 of all survey respondents stated that one or more of the following health problems impacted their daily functioning for three (3) months or more. Among the 239 respondents, 35% or 83 respondents were women and 65% or 156 were men.

- Anemia
- Arthritis
- Asthma
- Cancer
- Deafness
- Dermatitis
- Diabetes

- Digestive Trouble
- Epilepsy
- Heart Trouble
- High Blood Pressure
- Infections
- Obesity
- Respiratory Problems
- Seizures
- Strokes
- Tuberculosis
- Hepatitis

The survey instrument was also designed to compile a cross-section of information concerning several pre-determined sub-populations that included: chronic homeless persons, families with children, men, people living in homeless facilities, people living on the streets, persons with dual diagnoses, persons with HIV/AIDS, persons with mental illness, pregnant women, seniors, substance abusers, various ethnic groups, veterans, victims of domestic violence, unaccompanied youth, and women. As a result, the survey provides a sampling of data that helps examine the issues and needs of each homeless sub-population as well as the entire homeless population.

A close look at some of the sub-populations reveals that

CHRONIC HOMELESS PERSONS

- 57% of the homeless population is chronically homeless;

CHRONICALLY ILL

- 60% of the homeless population is chronically ill;

MENTALLY ILL

- 40% of the homeless population is mentally ill;

SUBSTANCE ABUSERS

- 32% of the homeless population are substance abusers;

VETERANS

- 12% of the homeless population are veterans

VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- 44% of the homeless population are victims of domestic violence

YOUTH (AGES 18 – 24)

- 8% of the homeless population is between 18 and 24 years of age.

The following sections provide greater detail about the homeless survey methodology and information about all of the sub-populations noted above.

I. Introduction

The 2010 County of Ventura Homeless Survey was administered to 431 homeless adults. The number of adults who were surveyed is more than one of every four adults (27%) who were included in the 2010 County of Ventura Homeless Count. Of the 1,815 persons counted, 1,604 were adults.

WHY WAS THE SURVEY CONDUCTED?

The survey was conducted in order to:

1. provide a wide-range of information on a representative sample of adults who were included in the homeless count;
2. obtain HUD required information concerning homeless subpopulations in Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance grant applications;
3. make available information to the County of Ventura to help meet requirements for planning documents such as consolidated plans, housing elements, and impediments to fair housing choice;
4. serve as a basis for developing strategies for public and private agencies to respond to specific needs of homeless families and individuals.

WHEN WAS THE SURVEY CONDUCTED?

The survey was conducted over an eight (8) week period from February through March of 2010.

WHERE WAS THE SURVEY CONDUCTED?

The survey was conducted on the streets and at various residential and non-residential social service sites that participated in the homeless count.

HOW THE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED?

Representatives from more than 30 public and private agencies, service-providers and faith-based institutions participated in conducting survey interviews throughout the city. The process involved administering a comprehensive one-on-one interview survey with a representative sample of homeless adults living in the County of Ventura. There were three (3) primary methods of contact with homeless persons who participated in the survey. They were: 1) interviews with homeless persons who were contacted on the streets; 2) interviews with homeless persons who were contacted while living in shelters and transitional housing; and 3) interviews with homeless persons who were contacted while using non-residential homeless services.

All surveyors who participated in administering the 100+ survey instrument were trained. Using trained interviewers to administer the survey instead of conducting a self-administered survey instrument increased the opportunity for collecting more complete and accurate responses to the questions and provided opportunity for receiving useful evaluation information from the interviewers.

WHAT WAS INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY?

The survey instrument was designed to collect a wide-range of information on homeless individuals as well as to assess their service needs using questions focusing on several areas including: Domestic Violence, Education, Ethnicity, Familial Status, Geo-History, Health Care, Income, Mental Health History, Residency, Substance Abuse History, Veteran's status, etc.

The survey instrument was also designed to compile a cross-section of information concerning several pre-determined sub-populations that included: chronically homeless persons, families with children, men, people living in homeless facilities, people living on the streets, persons with dual diagnoses, persons with HIV/AIDS, persons with mental illness, pregnant women, seniors, substance abusers, various ethnic groups, veterans, victims of domestic violence, unaccompanied youth, and women. As a result, the survey provides a sampling of data that helps examine the issues and needs of each homeless sub-population as well as the entire homeless population. A copy of the survey instrument is included in Appendix A.

WHO WAS INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY?

Four hundred and thirty one (431) adults participated in the survey providing detailed information about themselves and, when applicable, their children.

A demographic breakdown of survey respondents includes:

Gender

- 138 or 32% were women;
- 293 or 68% were men.

Ethnicity

- 22 or 5% were American Indian or Alaskan Native;
- 6 or 1% were Asian or Pacific Islander;
- 19 or 4% were Black or African American;
- 105 or 25% were Hispanic or Latino;
- 228 or 53% were White;
- 2 or 1% were One or More Ethnicities;
- 49 or 11% were "Other".

Age

- 02 or 0% were unaccompanied youth 17 years of age or younger;
- 34 or 8% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24;
- 36 or 8% were between the ages of 25 and 29;
- 77 or 18% were between the ages of 30 and 39;
- 127 or 29% were between the ages of 40 and 49;
- 77 or 18% were between the ages of 50 and 54;
- 46 or 11% were between the ages of 55 and 59;
- 10 or 2% were between the ages of 60 and 61;
- 15 or 4% were between the ages of 62 and 64;
- 04 or 1% were between the ages of 65 and 69;
- 03 or 1% were 70+ years old.

II. General Profile

The following section provides a general profile of homelessness in the County of Ventura. The profile is based upon 17 categories of questions that were contained in the survey. Categories included:

- A. Location (Geo-History)
- B. Length of Time Homeless
- C. Income
- D. Marital Status
- E. Veteran Status
- F. Domestic Violence and Assault
- G. Health Status
- H. Foster Care
- I. HIV/AIDS
- J. Pregnancy
- K. Drug History
- L. Tobacco
- M. Education
- N. Mental Health
- O. Food
- P. Religion
- Q. Children

A. LOCATION

Questions concerning location (including geo-history) focused on the following areas of concern: places of birth and local “community ties.”

Places of Birth

Survey respondents were asked in what country, state, and city they were born. Responses were as follows:

■ ***In What Country Were You Born?***

88% or 379 of all survey respondents stated that they were born in the United States, 8% or 33 stated Mexico, and 4% or 19 stated some other country which included:

- Africa
- Bolivia
- Canada
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- England
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungry
- Korea
- Panama
- Puerto Rico

■ ***In What State Were You Born?***

More than half (51%) or 222 of all survey respondents stated that they were born in California. Less than half (49%) stated that they were born in some other state in the United States or another country. Among those born in another state,

- 4% or 16 were born in Texas;
- 2% or nine (9) were born in Oregon;
- 3% or five (5) were born in Ohio;
- 2% or seven (7) were born in Illinois;
- 2% or seven (7) were born in Pennsylvania.

Local Community Ties

A range of questions concerning “community ties” to the County of Ventura were asked. Such ties focused on whether survey respondents considered themselves a resident of Ventura County, whether they had family members or friends who lived in the county, or whether they currently worked, worked in the past, or went to school in the county.

Questions that focused on whether survey respondents considered themselves a resident of Ventura County include the following:

■ ***Are You A Resident Of Ventura County?***

Eighty-six percent (86%) or 372 of all survey respondents stated that they were a resident of Ventura County.

■ ***What City Do You Consider Your Home?***

Eighty-six percent (86%) or 372 of all survey respondents stated that they considered one of the cities in Ventura County their home. A breakdown is as follows:

- Ventura - 35% or 149 survey respondents;
- Oxnard - 27% or 117 survey respondents;
- Simi Valley - 10% or 43 survey respondents;
- Thousand Oaks – 6% or 26 survey respondents;
- Santa Paula – 3% or 14 survey respondents;
- Ojai – 3% or 13 survey respondents;
- Camarillo – 2% or eight (8) survey respondents;
- Port Hueneme – 0% or one (1) survey respondent;
- Moorpark – 0% or one (1) survey respondent;
- Fillmore – 0% or no survey respondents.

Another question asked focused on a “local community tie” to a city in Ventura County.

■ ***In What City Did You First Become Homeless?***

Eighty-three percent (83%) or 358 of all survey respondents stated that they first became homeless in a city within Ventura County. A breakdown is as follows:

- Ventura – 33% or 143 survey respondents;
- Oxnard – 26% or 111 survey respondents;
- Simi Valley – 9% or 39 survey respondents;
- Thousand Oaks – 5% or 23 survey respondents;
- Camarillo – 4% or 16 survey respondents;
- Santa Paula – 3% or 14 survey respondents;
- Ojai – 3% or 11 survey respondents;
- Port Hueneme – 0% or one (1) survey respondent;
- Moorpark – 0% or no survey respondents;
- Fillmore – 0% or no survey respondents.

Other questions that focused on “local community ties” to Ventura County included

■ ***Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?***

More than half (54%) or 233 of all survey respondents stated that they have family who live in Ventura County.

- ***Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?***

Eighty-four percent (84%) or 363 of all survey respondents stated that they have friends who live in Ventura County.

- ***Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?***

Eighty two percent (82%) or 353 of all survey respondents stated that they worked in Ventura County in the past.

- ***Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?***

Eighteen (18%) or 78 of all survey respondents stated that they were currently working in Ventura County.

- ***Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?***

More than half (51%) or 222 of all survey respondents stated that they attended school in Ventura County.

The Question of Residency: Who Is, And Who Is Not, Considered A Resident

The criteria used to consider a “resident” included whether a person first became homeless while living in a city in Ventura County and whether a person had community ties. As previously noted, 83% or 358 survey respondents stated that they first became homeless while living in a city in Ventura County.

A survey respondent was considered to have “community ties” if they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions:

- ***Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?***
- ***Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?***
- ***Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?***
- ***Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?***
- ***Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?***

Of the 358 survey respondents who stated that they first became homeless while living in a city in Ventura County, 256 of them answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the five (5) questions noted above. In addition, there were 19 other survey respondents who answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the five (5) questions noted above but stated that they did not first become homeless while living in a city in Ventura County.

Thus, nearly two-thirds (64%) or 275 of all survey respondents first became homeless while living in a city in Ventura County and/or answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the five (5) questions noted above.

B. LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS

The primary question in this section focused on the length of time of each survey respondent’s current homeless experience.

■ *How Long Have You Been Currently Homeless?*

Length of Time Homeless	Percent	Number
10 Years Or More	8	33
Five Years Or More	20	88
Three Years Or More	32	139
One Year Or More	59	253

More than half (59%) or 253 of all survey respondents stated that they were currently homeless one year or more. Nearly one-third (32%) or 139 survey respondents stated that they were currently homeless three years or more, 20% or 88 stated five years or more, and 8% or 33 stated 10 years or more.

C. INCOME

Questions concerning income concentrate on employment and public assistance. Employment included part-time and full-time work and public assistance included current and past sources.

Employment

■ *Do You Have a Part-Time Job?*

Twelve percent (12%) or 52 of all survey respondents stated that they had a part-time job. Of the 52 survey respondents, nearly two-thirds (62%) or 32 were men and more than one-third (38%) or 20 were women.

■ *Do You Have a Full-Time Job?*

Seven percent (7%) or 29 of all survey respondents stated that they had a full-time job. Of the 29 survey respondents, nearly two-thirds (65%) or 19 were women and more than one-third (35%) or 10 were men.

Nineteen percent (19%) or 81 of all survey respondents stated that they had a part-time or full time job.

Public Assistance

■ ***Do You Receive Any Of The Following Kinds Of Monthly Incomes?***

More than three-fourths (76%) or 175 of all survey respondents stated that they were receiving one or more types of public assistance noted below. More survey respondents were receiving Food Stamps (39%), General Relief (37%), Medi-Cal/Medicare (23%), and Social Security-Disability (17%) than other types of public assistance.

Type of Public Assistance	Yes	
	#	%
AFDC/TANF	25	6
Social Security – Retirement (age 62+)	13	3
Social Security – Disability	62	17
General Relief	37	12
Unemployment	17	3
Veteran Benefits	7	2
Food Stamps	192	39
MediCare	25	4
Medi-Cal	91	19

Total Monthly Income

■ ***What is your total current monthly income?***

Of the 227 survey respondents who answered this question:

- More than one-third (39%) or 166 stated that they did not have any monthly income;
- More than half (58%) or 250 stated that they had a monthly income of \$300 or less;
- Nearly three-fourths (73%) or 314 stated that they had a monthly income of \$800 or less;
- Nearly 90% (88%) or 378 stated that they had a monthly income of \$1,000 or less.

D. MARITAL STATUS

There was only one question concerning marital status which was:

- ***What Is Your Marital Status?***

Eight percent (8%) or 35 of all survey respondents stated that they were currently married. Of those who were not, 54% or 233 stated that they were single, 26% or 111 stated that they were divorced, and all others (12%) or 52 survey respondents stated that they were separated, widowed, or stated Other.

E. VETERAN STATUS

The primary question concerning veteran status was:

- ***Are You A Veteran?***

Twelve percent (12%) or 51 of all survey respondents stated that they were a veteran. However, the number of men who were veterans is higher than women—48 or 16% of the total number of men (292) who were survey respondents stated that they were a veteran, compared to 3 or 2% of the total number of women (137) who were survey respondents.

Other questions concerning veteran status included:

- ***What Is Your Period of Service?***

Of the 51 veterans

- two (2) or 4% served pre-Vietnam War;
- 14 or more than one-fourth 27% served during the Vietnam War;
- 35 or more than two-thirds (68%) served post-Vietnam War;
- eight (8) or 16% served during the Persian Gulf War; and
- one (1) served during the Iraqi War.

- ***Do You Have A Veteran's Administration Medical Card?***

Of the 51 veterans who answered this question, 20 or 39% of all veterans stated that they have a Veteran's Administration Medical Card.

- ***Have You Used Any Veteran Services In The Past?***

Of the 51 veterans who answered this question, 25 or nearly half (49%) of all veterans stated that they have used veteran services in the past.

F. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ASSAULT

There were three (3) questions that were asked that concerned domestic violence and one question concerning physical assault. The two (2) questions concerning domestic violence were as follows:

- ***Have You Ever Been Abused/Mistreated By A Spouse Or Intimate Partner?***

More than one-fourth (29%) or 126 of all survey respondents stated that they had been abused/mistreated by a spouse or intimate partner. Among the 126 respondents, nearly two-thirds (62%) or 81 respondents were women and more than one-third (36%) or 45 were men.

The percentage of women who were abused/mistreated was higher than men—more than half (59%) or 81 of the total number of women who were survey respondents (137) stated that they were abused/mistreated, compared to 15% or 45 of the total number of men (292) who were survey respondents.

- ***Have You Ever Been Abused/Mistreated By A Parent Or Relative?***

Nearly one-third one-fourth (31%) or 135 of all survey respondents stated that they had been abused/mistreated by a parent or relative. Among the 135 respondents, 40% or 54 respondents were women and 60% or 81 were men.

The percentage of women who were abused/mistreated was higher than men—more than a third (39%) or 54 of the total number of women (137) who were survey respondents, stated that they were abused/mistreated, compared to more than one-fourth (28%) or 81 of the total number of men (292) who were survey respondents.

- ***Have You Ever Been Abused/Mistreated By Someone Other Than A Spouse, Intimate Partner, Parent, Or Relative?***

Nearly one-fourth (22%) or 97 of all survey respondents stated that they had been abused/mistreated by someone other than a spouse, intimate partner, or relative. Among the 97 respondents, 40% or 39 respondents were women and 60% or 58 respondents were men.

The percentage of men who were abused/mistreated was higher than women—more than one fourth (28%) or 39 of the total number of women (137) who were survey respondents stated that they were abused/mistreated, compared to 20% or 58 of the total number of men (292) who were survey respondents.

- ***Have You Ever Been A Victim Of Assault While Living On The Street?***

More than one-third (35%) or 149 of all survey respondents stated that they had been a victim of assault while living on the street. Of the 149 respondents, nearly three-fourths (73%) or 109 respondents were men and more than one-fourth (27%) or 40 were women.

The percentage of men who were assaulted was higher than women—more than one-third (37%) or 109 of the total number of men (292) who were survey respondents stated that they were assaulted, compared to more than one-fourth (29%) or 40 of the 137 women who were survey respondents.

- ***Was The Assault Physical or Sexual?***

Of the 40 women who were physically assaulted, nearly half (45%) or 18 were physically and sexually assaulted. Of the 109 men who were physically assaulted, 9% or 10 were physically and sexually assaulted.

G. HEALTH STATUS

There were several questions concerning health care that focused on disability, health problems, and dental and vision care. They included the following:

- ***Do You Have A Physical Or Developmental Disability That Impairs Any Activities Such As Walking, Eating, Breathing, Reading, Etc.?***

Thirty three percent (33%) or 144 of all survey respondents stated that they have a physical or developmental disability that impairs activities such as walking, eating, breathing, reading, etc. Among the 144 respondents, 71% or 103 respondents were men and 29% or 41 were women.

The percentage of men who had a disability was higher than women—35% or 103 of the total number of men (292) who were survey respondents stated that they had a disability compared to 30% or 41 of the total number of women (137) who were survey respondents.

- ***Do You Use Any Equipment Because Of Your Disability?***

Of the 144 survey respondents who stated that they have a physical or developmental disability that impairs activities such as walking, eating, breathing, reading, etc., 12% or 54 respondents stated that they use equipment because of their disability.

■ ***Have Any Of The Following Health Problems Impacted Your Daily Functioning for Three (3) Months Or More?***

More than half (55%) or 239 of all survey respondents stated that one or more of the following health problems impacted their daily functioning for three (3) months or more. Among the 239 respondents, 35% or 83 respondents were women and 65% or 156 were men.

The percentage of women was higher than men—60% or 83 of the total number of women (137) who were survey respondents had one or more of the following health problems and 53% or 156 of the total number of men (292) who were survey respondents.

■ ***Have Any Of The Following Health Problems Impacted Your Daily Functioning For Three (3) Months Or More?***

Survey respondents were asked if they had any of the following 18 health care problems:

Type of Health Problem	Yes	
	#	%
Anemia	28	6
Arthritis	85	20
Asthma	50	12
Cancer	14	3
Deafness	18	4
Dermatitis	8	2
Diabetes	34	8
Digestive Trouble	21	5
Epilepsy	5	1
Heart Trouble	40	9
High Blood Pressure	81	19
Infections	23	5
Obesity	17	4
Respiratory Problems	45	10
Seizures	20	5
Strokes	6	1
Tuberculosis	2	1
Hepatitis	34	8

■ ***Have You Been Able To Obtain Services For The Health Care Needs You Noted Above When Needed?***

More than one-third (36%) or 157 of all survey respondents stated that they have been able to obtain services for their health care needs. Among the 157 respondents, 67% or 105 respondents were men and 33% or 52 were women.

- More than one-third (38%) or 52 of the total number of survey respondents (137) who were women were able to obtain services for their health care needs;
- More than one-third (36%) or 105 of the total number of survey respondents (292) who were men were able to obtain services for their health care needs.

■ ***Do You Currently Need Health Care Services For Any Of The Conditions You Listed Above?***

More than one-third (36%) or 154 of all survey respondents stated that they currently needed health care services for their health care problems. Among the 81 respondents, 35% or 54 respondents were women and 65% or 100 were men.

- More than one-third (39%) or 54 of the total number of survey respondents (137) who were women, needed health care services for their health care problems;
- More than one-third (34%) or 100 of the total number of survey respondents (292) who were men needed health care services for their health care problems.

■ ***Have You Had A Dental Exam During The Past Year?***

More than one-fourth (29%) or 126 of all survey respondents stated that they had a dental exam during the past year. Among the 126 respondents, 36% or 46 respondents were women and 64% or 80 were men.

- More than one-third (34%) or 46 of the total number of survey respondents (137) who were women had a dental exam during the past year;
- More than one-fourth (27%) or 80 of the total number of survey respondents (292) who were men had a dental exam during the past year.

■ ***Have You Been Able To Obtain Dental Care When You Needed It?***

More than one-third (37%) or 160 of all survey respondents were able to obtain dental care when needed. Among the 160 respondents, 29% or 46 respondents were women and 71% or 114 were men.

- More than one-third (34%) or 46 of the total number of survey respondents (137) who were women were able to obtain dental care when needed;
- More than one-third (39%) or 114 of the total number of survey respondents (292) who were men were able to obtain dental care when needed.

■ ***Do You Need Dental Care At This Time?***

Nearly three-fourths (70%) or 304 of all survey respondents stated that they needed dental care. Among the 165 respondents, 36% or 111 were women and 64% or 192 were men.

- More than three-fourths (81%) or 111 of the total number of survey respondents (137) who were women stated that they needed dental care;
- Two-thirds (66%) or 192 of the total number of survey respondents (292) who were men stated that they needed dental care.

■ ***Have You Had A Vision Exam During The Past Year?***

Nearly one-third (30%) or 129 of all survey respondents stated that they had a vision exam during the past year. Among the 129 respondents, 34% or 44 respondents were women and 66% or 85 were men.

- Nearly one-third (32%) or 44 of the total number of survey respondents (137) who were women had a vision exam during the past year;
- More than one-fourth (29%) or 85 of the total number of survey respondents (292) who were men had a vision exam during the past year.

■ ***Have You Been Able To Obtain Vision Care When You Needed It?***

Nearly half (43%) or 187 of all survey respondents stated that they were able to obtain vision care when needed and nearly half (46%) were not. Among the 187 respondents, 33% or 62 respondents were women and 67% or 125 were men.

- Nearly half (45%) or 62 of the total number of survey respondents (137) who were women were able to obtain vision care when needed;
- Nearly half (42%) or 125 of the total number of survey respondents (292) who were men were able to obtain vision care when needed.

■ ***Do You Need Vision Care At This Time?***

More than half (56%) or 241 of all survey respondents stated that they needed vision care. Among the 241 respondents, 37% or 89 were women and 63% or 150 were men.

- Nearly two-thirds (65%) or 89 of all survey respondents who were women (137) stated that they needed vision care at the time of the survey;
- More than half (51%) or 150 of all survey respondents who were men (292) stated that they needed vision care at the time of the survey.

- ***Have You Had A Prescription You Could Not Fill?***

More than one-third (35%) or 150 of all survey respondents stated that they had a prescription that they could not fill. Forty percent (40%) or 60 respondents were women and 60% or 90 were men.

H. FOSTER CARE

Questions concerning foster care centered on current and past placement and incidents of homelessness during and after placement. They included:

- ***Are You Currently In The Foster Care System?***

0 or 0% of all survey respondents were currently in the foster care system.

- ***Have You Ever Been In The Foster Care System?***

Five percent (5%) or 22 of all survey respondents stated that they had been in the foster care system.

- ***When Were You Released From The Foster Care System?***

Of the 22 survey respondents that stated they had been in the foster care system, 95% or 21 had been released from the foster care system one year or more ago.

- ***Were You Homeless During The Time You Were In Foster Care?***

Of the 22 survey respondents that stated they had been in the foster care system, 18% or 4 stated that they were homeless during the time they were in foster care.

I. HIV/AIDS

Questions about HIV/AIDS focused on testing for HIV/AIDS and having HIV/AIDS. They included:

- ***Have You Ever Been Tested For HIV/AIDS?***

Three-fourths (75%) or 325 survey respondents stated that they had been tested for HIV/AIDS.

- ***Do You Know Your Results?***

Of the 325 survey respondents that stated that they had been tested for HIV/AIDS, 93% or 304 stated that they knew their results.

- ***Are You HIV+?***

One percent (1%) or six (6) survey respondents stated that they were HIV+.

J. PREGNANCY

There was just one (1) primary question concerning pregnancy which was,

- ***Are You Pregnant?***

There was one (1) survey respondent who stated that she was pregnant.

K. DRUG HISTORY

There were several questions concerning different types of drug use. Each question asked if the survey respondent was currently using, used in the past, or never used a drug or substance. The last question asked if the survey respondent had a substance abuse problem. The primary question was:

- ***Do You Now Use, Or Have You Ever Used, Any Of The Following Drugs?***

Type of Drug	Current Use		Past Use		Never Used	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Alcohol (229 responses)	138	32	228	53	65	15
Marijuana (221 responses)	97	22	214	50	120	28
Uppers, Speed (211 responses)	29	7	176	41	222	52
Downers (209 responses)	14	3	117	27	300	70
Tranquilizers (209 responses)	15	3	76	18	340	79
Cocaine or Crack (217 responses)	4	1	190	44	237	55
PCP, LSD (210 responses)	3	1	135	31	293	68
Heroin (211 responses)	8	2	108	25	315	73

- ***Do You Have A Substance Abuse Problem?***

Nineteen percent (19%) or 84 of all survey respondents stated that they have a substance abuse problem.

L. TOBACCO

The questions about tobacco focused on frequency of use and interest in quitting. They include:

- ***Do You Smoke?***

Nearly two-thirds (60%) or 259 of all survey respondents stated that they smoke cigarettes.

- ***How many Cigarettes Do You Smoke Per Day—less than one pack; one pack; or two or more packs?***

When asked how “many cigarettes do you smoke per day” nearly three-fourths (70%) or 182 of the 259 survey respondents stated “less than one pack,” 25% or 65 stated “one pack,” and 5% or 12 stated “two or more packs.”

- ***How Interested Are You In Quitting Smoking—not interested; somewhat interested; or very interested?***

When asked if they were interested in quitting, one-third (33%) or 87 of the 259 survey respondents stated “not interested,” more than one-fourth (24%) or 61 stated “somewhat interested,” and nearly half (43%) or 111 stated “very interested.”

- ***Do You Chew Tobacco?***

Four percent (4%) or 19 of all survey respondents stated that they chew tobacco.

- ***How Interested Are You In Quitting—not interested; somewhat interested; or very interested?***

Of the 19 survey respondents, more than two-thirds (68%) or 13 were “not interested” in quitting, 10% or 2 stated “somewhat interested,” and 21% or 4 stated “very interested.”

M. EDUCATION

Questions about education asked about the highest grade completed, vocational training, and business school attendance. They specifically asked

- ***What Is The Highest Grade Of School That You Completed?***

Three-fourths (75%) or 324 of all survey respondents completed high school, more than half (56%) or 183 completed some junior college, college, or post-graduate education, 6% or 25 finished college.

- ***Have You Ever Completed A Vocational Training Course?***

More than one-third (38%) or 162 of all survey respondents stated that they completed a vocational training course.

- ***Have You Ever Attended A Business School?***

Twelve percent (12%) or 52 of all survey respondents stated that they attended a business school.

N. MENTAL HEALTH

There were several questions about mental health symptoms and medications, which are given below. In addition, there was a question that was answered by the interviewer which was, —Does the interviewee act/converse in a mentally unstable manner.

- ***Have You Ever Been Diagnosed With A Mental Or Emotional Problem?***
 More than one-third (35%) or 153 of all survey respondents stated that they have been diagnosed with a mental or emotional problem.
- ***If Yes, Have You Experienced Any Symptoms Of This Diagnosis Within The Past Year?***
 Of the 153 survey respondents who stated that they have been diagnosed with a mental or emotional problem, more than three-fourths (76%) or 116 stated had experienced symptoms within the past year.
- ***Have You Ever Been Prescribed Medications For Mental Or Emotional Problems?***
 Nearly half (41%) or 178 of all survey respondents stated that they had been prescribed medications for mental or emotional problems.
- ***If Yes, Are You Currently Taking Any Psychotropic (Psychiatric) Medications?***
 Of the 178 survey respondents who stated that they had been prescribed medications for mental or emotional problems, nearly half (41%) or 73 stated that they were currently taking psychotropic medications.
- ***Have You Been Hospitalized For Psychiatric Problems During The Past Year?***
 Thirteen percent (12%) or 50 of all survey respondents stated that they had been hospitalized for psychiatric problems during the past year.
- ***If No, Have You Ever Been Hospitalized For Psychiatric Reasons?***
 Of those survey respondents who stated “no” when asked if they had been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons during the past year, 19% or 81 stated “yes” when asked if they had ever been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons.
- ***Have You Ever Seen A Counselor For Help While Dealing With Your Emotions Or Stress?***
 More than half (53%) or 121 of all survey respondents stated that they had seen a counselor for help while dealing with emotions or stress.

- ***Have Friends Or Family Ever Expressed Concern About Your Mental Health?***
Nearly half (48%) or 208 of all survey respondents stated that friends or family expressed concern about their mental health.
- ***Does The Interviewee Act/Converse In A Mentally Unstable Manner (answered by the Interviewer)?***
Seven percent (7%) or 31 of all survey respondents acted/conversed in a mentally unstable manner according to the interviewers.

O. RELIGION

Questions concerning religion focused on personal faith, service attendance, and its impact on people during their homeless experience. They included:

- ***Do You Consider Yourself A Religious Person?***
Nearly three-fourths (72%) or 309 of all survey respondents stated that they considered themselves a religious person.
- ***Are You A Member Of A Religious Faith?***
Nearly two-thirds (63%) or 273 of all survey respondents stated that they were members of a religious faith.
- ***Do You Regularly Attend A Religious Service?***
Nearly half (47%) or 202 of all survey respondents stated that they attend a religious service.
- ***Were You Raised As A Child In A Religious Home?***
Nearly two-thirds (66%) or 286 of all survey respondents stated that they were raised as a child in a religious home.
- ***Has Your Faith Increased Or Decreased During Your Homeless Experience?***
Nearly three-fourths (72%) or 309 of all survey respondents stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

P. CHILDREN

There were 42 children living with survey respondents. Questions concerning children were answered by the adult survey respondents who were with them. Questions included:

- ***Do You Have Any Children Living With You?***

Ten percent (10%) or 42 of all survey respondents stated that they had children living with them.

- ***How Many?***

Of the 42 survey respondents, nearly half (43%) or 18 survey respondents stated one (1) child, nearly half (45%) or 19 stated two (2) children; and 12% or 5 stated three (3) children or more.

- ***Is Your Child Enrolled In School?***

Nearly three-fourths (74%) or 31 of the 42 children were enrolled in school.

- ***Have You Been Able To Obtain Health Care For Your Children?***

Eighty eight (88%) or 37 of 42 survey respondents stated that they were able to obtain health care for their children.

- ***Have You Been Able To Provide Three Meals A Day For Your Children?***

Ninety percent (90%) or 38 of 42 survey respondents stated that they were able to provide three (3) meals a day for their children.

- ***Are You The Only Parent In Your Household?***

Nearly three-fourths (74%) or 31 of 42 survey respondents stated that they were the only parent in their household.

III. SUB-POPULATIONS

The survey instrument was designed to compile a cross-section of information concerning several pre-determined sub-populations that included:

- A. Chronic Homeless Persons;
- B. Men;
- C. Persons with Chronically Illness;
- D. Persons with Mental Illness;
- E. Substance Abusers;
- F. Veterans;
- G. Victims of Domestic Violence;
- H. Women; and
- I. Youth Ages 18 – 24.

As a result, the survey provides a sample of data that helps examine several of the issues and needs of each homeless sub-population.

There were three (3) sub-populations that were pre-determined but not included in this section. They were persons with HIV/AIDS, veterans, and unaccompanied youth under age 18. They were not included because very survey respondents who stated that they had HIV/AIDS, or were veterans, or were an unaccompanied youth under age 18 was small. Eight (8) survey respondents stated that they had HIV/AIDS, eight (8) stated that they were a veteran, and one (1) was an unaccompanied youth under age 18.

A. CHRONIC HOMELESS PERSONS

Key Finding: *57% of all survey respondents were chronically homeless.*

Of the 431 survey respondents, 244 or 57% were chronically homeless.

According to HUD, a chronic homeless person is an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. Disabling condition is defined as “a diagnosable substance (abuse), serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions.” Also, to be considered chronically homeless, persons must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) or in an emergency homeless shelter during that time.

The following information provides a profile of chronic homeless persons based upon the responses of 244 or 57% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 68% were men and 32% were women.

Ethnicity:

- 7% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 0% were Asian; 5% were African American/Black; 16% were Hispanic/Latino; 58% were White; and 14% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 6% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24; 18% were under the age of 40; 69% were age 40 – 61; and 7% were 62 years of age or older.

Location:

Country Born

- 92% were born in the United States; 4% were born in Mexico; and 4% in other countries.

State Born

- 53% were born in the State of California and 47% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 100% were chronically homeless.

Residency¹:

- 63% were residents of Ventura County.

Employment:

- 16% were employed—11% were employed part-time and 5% full-time.

Total Income:

- 9% had no income.

Marital Status:

- 8% were currently married and 92% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 15% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 49% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 80% were chronically ill.

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 7% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 2% were HIV+.

¹The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Pregnancy:

- 0% of chronically homeless women were pregnant.

Substance Abuse:

- 42% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 64% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 37% were not interested in quitting;
- 24% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 39% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 75% completed high school and 12% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 51% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 68% considered themselves a religious person;
- 61% were a member of a religious faith;
- 42% regularly attended a religious service;
- 70% were raised in a religious home;
- 71% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 66% had children;
- 8% had children currently living with them.

B. MEN

Key Finding: *68% of all survey respondents were men.*

Of the 431 survey respondents, 292 or 68% were men.

The following information provides a profile of men based upon the responses of 292 or 68% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 100% were men.

Ethnicity:

- 5% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 2% were Asian; 4% were African American/Black; 23% were Hispanic/Latino; 56% were White; and 10% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 8% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24; 22% were under the age of 40; 64% were age 40 – 61; and 6% were 62 years of age or older.

Location:

Country Born

- 86% were born in the United States; 10% were born in Mexico; and 4% in other countries.

State Born

- 48% were born in the State of California and 52% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 56% were chronically homeless.

Residency²:

- 60% were residents of Ventura County.

Employment:

- 14% were employed—11% were employed part-time and 3% full-time.

Total Income:

- 7% had no income.

Marital Status:

- 7% were currently married and 93% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 6% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 33% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 60% were chronically ill.

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 5% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 1% were HIV+.

Pregnancy:

- n/a.

² The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Substance Abuse:

- 36% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 62% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 36% were not interested in quitting;
- 24% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 41% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 67% completed high school and 9% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 37% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 69% considered themselves a religious person;
- 61% were a member of a religious faith;
- 45% regularly attended a religious service;
- 66% were raised in a religious home;
- 70% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 58% had children;
- 2% had children currently living with them.

C. PERSONS WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS

Key Finding: 60% of all survey respondents were chronically ill.

Of the 431 survey respondents, 260 or 60% were chronically ill.

Persons were considered chronically ill if they answered “yes” to question 35 which was “Do you have a physical or developmental disability that impairs any activities such as walking, eating, breathing, reading, etc.” and if they answered “yes” to question 37 which was “Have any of the following health problems impacted your daily functioning for three (3) months or more” and noted one or more of the listed health problems.

The following information provides a profile of persons who were chronically ill based upon the responses of 260 or 60% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 67% were men and 33% were women.

Ethnicity:

- 6% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 2% were Asian; 4% were African American/Black; 19% were Hispanic/Latino; 54% were White; and 15% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 4% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24; 20% were under the age of 40; 68% were age 40 – 61; and 8% were 62 years of age or older.

Location:

Country Born

- 89% were born in the United States; 5% were born in Mexico; and 6% in other countries.

State Born

- 49% were born in the State of California and 51% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 75% were chronically homeless.

Residency³:

- 44% were residents of Ventura County.

Employment:

- 13% were employed—among those employed, 10% were employed part-time and 3% full-time.

Total Income:

- 8% had no income.

Marital Status:

- 10% were currently married and 90% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 15% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 52% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 100% were chronically ill.

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 6% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 2% were HIV+.

³ The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Pregnancy:

- 0% of chronically ill women were pregnant.

Substance Abuse:

- 35% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 63% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 38% were not interested in quitting;
- 23% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 39% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 67% completed high school and 9% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 48% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 71% considered themselves a religious person;
- 65% were a member of a religious faith;
- 46% regularly attended a religious service;
- 71% were raised in a religious home;
- 73% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 70% had children;
- 6% had children currently living with them.

D. PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

Key Finding: 40% of all survey respondents were persons with mental illness.

Of the 431 survey respondents, 172 or 40% were persons with mental illness.

Persons were considered mentally ill if they answered yes to both questions within any of the following sets:

- *Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental or emotional problem?*
- *If YES, have you experienced any symptoms of this diagnosis within the past year?*

- *Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental or emotional problem?*
- *Does the interviewee act/converse in a mentally unstable manner?*

- *Have you ever been prescribed medications for mental or emotional problems?*
- *If YES, Are you currently taking any psychotropic (psychiatric) medications?*

- *Have you ever been prescribed medications for mental or emotional problems?*
- *Does the interviewee act/converse in a mentally unstable manner?*

- *Have you been hospitalized for psychiatric problems during the past year?*
- *Does the interviewee act/converse in a mentally unstable manner?*

- *If NO, have you ever been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons?*
- *Does the interviewee act/converse in a mentally unstable manner?*

- *Have you ever seen a counselor for help dealing with your emotions or stress?*
- *Does the interviewee act/converse in a mentally unstable manner?*

- *Have friends or family ever expressed concern about your mental health?*
- *Does the interviewee act/converse in a mentally unstable manner?*

Persons were also considered mentally ill if the answer was “yes” to any three (3) of the questions noted above.

The following information provides a profile of persons with mental illness based upon the responses of 172 or 40% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 62% were men and 38% were women.

Ethnicity:

- 8% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 2% were Asian; 5% were African American/Black; 12% were Hispanic/Latino; 57% were White; and 16% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 8% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24; 21% were under the age of 40; 66% were age 40 – 61; and 5% were 62 years of age or older.

Location:

Country Born

- 92% were born in the United States; 3% were born in Mexico; and 5% in other countries.

State Born

- 58% were born in the State of California and 42% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 73% were chronically homeless.

Residency⁴:

- 63% were residents of Ventura County.

⁴ The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Employment:

- 18% were employed—9% were employed part-time and 9% full-time.

Total Income:

- 8% had no income.

Marital Status:

- 6% were currently married and 94% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 13% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 63% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 72% were chronically ill.

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 9% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 2% were HIV+.

Pregnancy:

- 0% of women with mental illness were pregnant.

Substance Abuse:

- 42% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 68% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 35% were not interested in quitting;
- 28% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 37% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 76% completed high school and 12% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 100% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 66% considered themselves a religious person;
- 63% were a member of a religious faith;
- 47% regularly attended a religious service;
- 64% were raised in a religious home;
- 78% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 65% had children;
- 13% had children currently living with them.

E. SUBSTANCE ABUSERS

Key Finding: 32% of all survey respondents were substance abusers.

Of the 431 survey respondents, 139 or 32% were substance abusers.

Persons were considered substance abusers if they answered yes to the following question: “Do you have a substance abuse problem” and if they stated that they currently use alcohol and marijuana and/or if they stated that they currently use one or more of the following drugs:

- Uppers, speed (including methamphetamines)
- Downers
- Tranquilizers
- Cocaine or Crack
- PCP, LSD
- Heroin

The following information provides a profile of substance abusers based upon the responses of 139 or 32% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 76% were men and 24% were women.

Ethnicity:

- 5% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 2% were Asian; 2% were African American/Black; 18% were Hispanic/Latino; 63% were White; and 10% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 7% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24; 22% were under the age of 40; 70% were age 40 – 61; and 1% were 62 years of age or older.

Location:Country Born

- 93% were born in the United States; 4% were born in Mexico; and 3% in other countries.

State Born

- 53% were born in the State of California and 47% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 64% were chronically homeless.

Residency⁵:

- 63% were residents of Ventura County.

Employment:

- 15% were employed—11% were employed part-time and 4% full-time.

Total Income:

- 10% had no income.

Marital Status:

- 7% were currently married and 93% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 13% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 45% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 72% were chronically ill.

⁵ The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 6% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 0% were HIV+.

Pregnancy:

- 1% of women who were substance abusers were pregnant.

Substance Abuse:

- 33% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 72% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 37% were not interested in quitting;
- 24% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 38% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 71% completed high school and 6% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 57% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 67% considered themselves a religious person;
- 59% were a member of a religious faith;
- 40% regularly attended a religious service;
- 60% were raised in a religious home;
- 71% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 65% had children;
- 5% had children currently living with them.

F. VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Key Finding: 44% of all survey respondents were victims of domestic violence.

Of the 431 survey respondents, 188 or 44% were victims of domestic violence.

Persons were considered victims of domestic violence if they answered yes to one or both of the following questions:

- *Have you ever been abused/mistreated by a spouse or intimate partner?*
- *Have you ever been abused/mistreated by a parent or relative?*

The following information provides a profile of victims of domestic violence based upon the responses of 188 or 44% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 52% were men and 48% were women.

Ethnicity:

- 9% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 1% were Asian; 3% were African American/Black; 20% were Hispanic/Latino; 51% were White; and 16% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 11% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24; 24% were under the age of 40; 62% were age 40 – 61; and 3% were 62 years of age or older.

Location:

Country Born

- 90% were born in the United States; 5% were born in Mexico; and 5% in other countries.

State Born

- 53% were born in the State of California and 47% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 46% were chronically homeless.

Residency⁶:

- 68% were residents of Ventura County.

Employment:

- 21% were employed—13% were employed part-time and 8% full-time.

Total Income:

- 8% had no income.

Marital Status:

- 7% were currently married and 93% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 11% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 100% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 27% were chronically ill.

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 10% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 2% were HIV+.

⁶ The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Pregnancy:

- 0% of women who were victims of domestic violence were pregnant.

Substance Abuse:

- 19% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 61% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 36% were not interested in quitting;
- 15% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 49% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 72% completed high school and 7% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 52% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 70% considered themselves a religious person;
- 65% were a member of a religious faith;
- 44% regularly attended a religious service;
- 67% were raised in a religious home;
- 74% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 67% had children;
- 13% had children currently living with them.

G. VETERANS

Key Finding: *12% of all survey respondents were veterans.*

Of the 431 survey respondents, 51 or 12% were veterans.

The following information provides a profile of veterans based upon the responses of 51 or 12% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 94% were men and 6% were women.

Ethnicity:

- 4% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 1% were Asian; 4% were African American/Black; 6% were Hispanic/Latino; 69% were White; and 16% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 4% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24; 8% were under the age of 40; 82% were age 40 – 61; and 6% were 62 years of age or older.

Location:

Country Born

- 92% were born in the United States; 2% were born in Mexico; and 8% in other countries.

State Born

- 53% were born in the State of California and 47% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 72% were chronically homeless.

Residency⁷:

- 43% were residents of Ventura County.

Employment:

- 26% were employed—16% were employed part-time and 10% full-time.

Total Income:

- 6% had no income.

Marital Status:

- 8% were currently married and 92% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 100% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 54% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 74% were chronically ill.

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 10% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 0% were HIV+.

Pregnancy:

- 0% of women who were White were pregnant.

⁷ The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Substance Abuse:

- 35% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 74% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 51% were not interested in quitting;
- 20% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 28% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 93% completed high school and 18% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 43% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 80% considered themselves a religious person;
- 63% were a member of a religious faith;
- 45% regularly attended a religious service;
- 65% were raised in a religious home;
- 82% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 69% had children;
- 0% had children currently living with them.

H. WOMEN

Key Finding: *32% of all survey respondents were Women.*

Of the 431 survey respondents, 137 or 32% were Women.

The following information provides a profile of Women based upon the responses of 137 or 32% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 100% were women.

Ethnicity:

- 5% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 0% were Asian; 4% were African American/Black; 29% were Hispanic/Latino; 48% were White; and 14% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 8% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24; 33% were under the age of 40; 56% were age 40 – 61; and 3% were 62 years of age or older.

Location:

Country Born

- 93% were born in the United States; 4% were born in Mexico; and 3% in other countries.

State Born

- 58% were born in the State of California and 42% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 56% were chronically homeless.

Residency⁸:

- 72% were residents of Ventura County.

Employment:

- 14% were employed—11% were employed part-time and 3% full-time.

Total Income:

- 8% had no income.

Marital Status:

- 10% were currently married and 90% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 2% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 65% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 61% were chronically ill.

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 6% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 2% were HIV+.

Pregnancy:

- 1% of women were pregnant.

⁸ The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Substance Abuse:

- 24% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 62% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 32% were not interested in quitting;
- 24% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 44% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 75% completed high school and 6% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 47% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 76% considered themselves a religious person;
- 69% were a member of a religious faith;
- 49% regularly attended a religious service;
- 66% were raised in a religious home;
- 74% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 83% had children;
- 25% had children currently living with them.

I. YOUTH – AGES 18 - 24

Key Finding: 8% of all survey respondents were Youth – ages 18 - 24.

Of the 431 survey respondents, 34 or 8% were Youth – ages 18 - 24.

The following information provides a profile of Youth – ages 18 - 24 based upon the responses of 34 or 8% of survey respondents. Information includes gender, ethnicity, age, location, chronic homelessness, residency, employment, public assistance, income, marital status, veteran status, domestic violence, chronic illness, foster care, HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, substance abuse, tobacco, education, mental illness, religion, and children.

Gender:

- 68% were men and 32% were women.

Ethnicity:

- 15% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 0% were Asian; 0% were African American/Black; 41% were Hispanic/Latino; 32% were White; and 12% were one or more race or stated Other.

Age:

- 100% were youth between the ages of 18 and 24.

Location:

Country Born

- 91% were born in the United States; 9% were born in Mexico; and 0% in other countries.

State Born

- 62% were born in the State of California and 38% were born in other states.

Chronic Homelessness:

- 44% were chronically homeless.

Residency⁹:

- 68% were residents of Ventura County.

Employment:

- 26% were employed—among those employed, 18% were employed part-time and 8% full-time.

Total Income:

- 41% had no income;
- 80% had an income of less than \$250 per month;
- 95% had an income of less than \$500 per month;
- 95% had an income of less than \$1,000 per month;
- 5% had an income of \$1,000 per month or more.

Marital Status:

- 18% were currently married and 82% were single.

Veteran Status:

- 0% were veterans.

Victim of Domestic Violence:

- 45% had experienced domestic violence.

Chronically Ill:

- 4% were chronically ill.

Foster Care:

- 0% were currently in foster care and 23% had been in the foster care system in the past.

HIV/AIDS:

- 0% were HIV+.

⁹ The criteria used to identify a “resident” were based on whether they first became homeless while living in Ventura County and whether they had “community ties” which was based on whether they answered “yes” to at least three (3) of the following five (5) questions: 1) Do You Have Family Who Live In Ventura County?; 2) Do You Have Friends Who Live In Ventura County?; 3) Have You Ever Worked In Ventura County?; 4) Are You Currently Working In Ventura County?; and 5) Have You Ever Attended School In Ventura County?

Pregnancy:

- 9% of women were pregnant.

Substance Abuse:

- 9% were currently abusing alcohol and/or other drugs.

Tobacco:

- 73% were currently smoking;

Among those who were currently smoking:

- 60% were not interested in quitting;
- 7% were somewhat interested in quitting;
- 33% were very interested in quitting.

Education:

- 32% completed high school and 13% were a college graduate.

Mental Illness:

- 46% had mental illness.

Religion:

- 41% considered themselves a religious person;
- 50% were a member of a religious faith;
- 18% regularly attended a religious service;
- 64% were raised in a religious home;
- 64% stated that their faith increased during their homeless experience.

Children:

- 18% had children;
- 0% had children currently living with them.

Conclusion

The results of the 2010 County of Ventura Homeless Count combined with the results of the 2010 County of Ventura Homeless Survey provides information that serves as the basis for three (3) important tasks:

- understanding the nature and extent of the current trends in homelessness in Ventura County communities;
- responding to the unmet needs and gaps in services for homeless individuals and families in Ventura County;
- developing local community and countywide strategies to meet the goal of ending homelessness over the next ten years.

The challenge is to develop solution-oriented approaches through a well-coordinated, outcome driven social service system designed to directly meet the needs of our local homeless population. Such activities will further build upon collaborative efforts between homeless service providers, business enterprises, residents, faith-based organizations, other community agencies, and local government that will provide service-enriched program environments in which homeless persons will receive the tools necessary to achieve self-sufficiency and maintain permanent housing.

Thus, an important use of this report is to provide accurate information necessary to design and implement the housing and social service assistance needed to bring homeless persons back into our workforce, schools, faith-based institutions, and other community institutions and provide the means for them to become stable, productive contributors to our communities.

Appendix A

LOCATION: _____

SURVEYOR: _____

2010 COUNTY OF VENTURA HOMELESS SURVEY

A. Physical Characteristics:

- 1) Gender: Female
 Male
- 2) Ethnicity: American Indian or Alaskan Native
 Asian/Pacific Islander
 Black or African-American
 Hispanic or Latino
 White
 Other _____
(Please Record Other Ethnicity)
- 3) Age: 13 - 17
 18 - 24
 25 - 29
 30 - 39
 40 - 49
 50 - 54
 55 - 59
 60 - 61
 62 - 64
 65 - 69
 70+
 Other _____

B. Geo-History:

- 4) Where were you born?
- a) Country: U.S.
Other _____
(Please Record Other Country)
- b) If U.S. born, which State: California
 Other _____
(Please Record Other State)
- What City in the U.S.: _____
(Please Record City)
- 5) In what city and state did you **FIRST** become homeless?

(Please Record City) (Please Record State)

- 6) How long have you been **currently** homeless? _____
- 7) Have you been currently living on the street and/or in shelters for at least 1 year?
 Yes No
- 7a) Have you slept in a vehicle such as a car, truck, van, or trailer during the past year?
 Yes No
- 8) How many times have you experienced homelessness during the **last** 3 years? _____ times
- 9) How old were you the first time you became homeless? _____
(Please Record Approximate Age)
- 10) What city do you consider to be your home? _____
- 11) How long have you been living in the above city? _____
- 12) Are you a resident of Ventura County? Yes No
What City? _____
- 13) Do you have family who live in Ventura County? Yes No
What City? _____
- 14) Do you have friends who live in Ventura County? Yes No
What City? _____
- 15) Have you ever worked in Ventura County? Yes No
What City? _____
- 16) Are you currently working in Ventura County? Yes No
What City? _____
- 17) Have you ever attended school in Ventura County? Yes No
What City? _____

If YES to # 17:

17a) Check all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary	<input type="checkbox"/> Middle School/Jr. High	<input type="checkbox"/> High School	<input type="checkbox"/> College
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C. Income:

- 18) Do you have a part-time job? Yes No
 Do you have a full-time job? Yes No
 (Person must be earning *minimum wages or more*).
- 19) If you are not currently employed, when was the last time you were employed?

- 20) What was the reason that you left your job? laid off
 fired
 other: _____
- 21) What is your primary occupation? _____
- 22) Do you receive any of the following kinds of monthly incomes (check all that apply, ***incl. work***):
- (AFDC/TANF)
 - (Social Security - Retirement (age 62+))
 - (Social Security - Disability)
 - (GR)
 - (Unemployment)
 - (Veterans Benefits)
 - (Food Stamps)
 - (MediCare)
 - (Medi-Cal)
 - (Union Pension)
 - (Other: Please Describe) _____
- 22a) If you do not currently receive any of these monthly incomes, did you receive any of these monthly incomes in the past? Yes No
- 22b) If so, which ones:
- (AFDC/TANF)
 - (Social Security - Retirement (age 62+))
 - (Social Security - Disability)
 - (GR)
 - (Unemployment)
 - (Veterans Benefits)
 - (Food Stamps)
 - (MediCare)
 - (Medi-Cal)
 - (Union Pension)
- 23) What Is Your Total Current Monthly Income? _____

D. Family History:

- 24) What is your marital status? Single
 Married
 Separated
 Divorced
 Widowed
 Other _____
(Please Describe)

E. Veteran's Status:

- 25) Are you a veteran? Yes No

If YES to # 26, please answer the following (#27 to 31b):

26) Period of service:
 World War II (12/41 to 12/46) Vietnam (8/64 to 4/75)
 Pre-Korea (1/47 to 6/50) Post-Vietnam (5/75 to 7/90)
 Korea (7/50 to 1/55) Persian Gulf (8/90 to Present)
 Pre-Vietnam (2/55 to 7/64) Other: _____

27) Dates of service: From _____ to _____

28) Type of discharge: _____

29) Do you have a VA medical card? Yes No

30) Have you used any veteran services in the past? Yes No

F. Domestic Violence

- 31) Have you ever been abused/mistreated by a spouse or intimate partner? Yes No
- 32) Have you ever been abused/mistreated by a parent or relative? Yes No
- 33) Have you ever been abused/mistreated by someone *other than* a spouse, intimate partner, parent, or relative? Yes No
- 34) Have you ever been a victim of assault while living on the streets? Yes No

If YES to # 37, please answer the following:

34a) Was the assault: Physical Yes No
Sexual Yes No

G. Health Status:

- 35) Do you have a physical or developmental disability that impairs any activities such as walking, eating, breathing, reading, etc.? Yes No
- 36) Do you use any equipment because of your disability? Yes No
- 37) Have any of the following health problems impacted your daily functioning for 3 months or more?
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> anemia | <input type="checkbox"/> heart trouble |
| <input type="checkbox"/> arthritis | <input type="checkbox"/> high blood pressure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> asthma | <input type="checkbox"/> infections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cancer | <input type="checkbox"/> obesity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> deafness | <input type="checkbox"/> respiratory problems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dermatitis | <input type="checkbox"/> seizures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> diabetes | <input type="checkbox"/> strokes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> digestive trouble | <input type="checkbox"/> tuberculosis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> epilepsy | <input type="checkbox"/> hepatitis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ | |
- 38) Have you been able to obtain services for the health care needs you noted above when you needed it? Yes No
- 38a) Do you currently need health care services for any of the conditions you listed above? Yes No
- 39) Have you had a dental exam during the past year? Yes No
- 29a) Have you been able to obtain dental care when you needed it? Yes No
- 29b) Do you need dental care at this time? Yes No
- 40) Have you had a vision exam during the past year? Yes No
- 40a) Have you been able to obtain vision care when you needed it? Yes No
- 40b) Do you need vision care at this time? Yes No
- 41) Have you had a prescription you could **not** fill? Yes No

I. Foster Care:

Question #32, only for Individuals 17 years old or younger

- 42) Are you currently in the foster care system? (skip to question #34) Yes No
- 43) Have you ever been in the foster care system? Yes No

If YES to # 33: _____

43a) When were you released from the foster care system?
 _____ 1 month ago
 _____ 3 months ago
 _____ 6 months ago
 _____ 12+ months ago

43b) How old were you when you were released from foster care? Age: _____

43c) Were you homeless during the time you were in foster care?
 Yes No

If NO to 33c

43d) How long after discharge did you become homeless? _____ months/years

J. HIV/AIDS:

- 44) Have you ever been tested for HIV/AIDS? Yes No
- 44a) IF **YES**, when were you tested? _____
- 44b) Do you know your results? Yes No

If NO to # 44:

45) Would you like to be tested for HIV/AIDS? Yes No

If YES to # 34b, please answer # 36 to 36a:

46) Are you HIV+? Yes No

46a) Do you know if you are: w/o symptoms
 with symptoms
 AIDS diagnosis

K. Pregnancy:

- 47) Are you pregnant? Yes No

If YES to # 57, Please answer the following:

47a) How long have you been pregnant? _____ weeks

47b) What is your expected date of delivery? _____

47c) Are you receiving on-going prenatal care? Yes No

47c1) If **YES**, where? Private Physician
 Clinic

IF "YES" to # 58c:

- 51a) How much chew do you use per day? Less than one container
 One container
 Two or more containers
- 52b) How interested are you in quitting? Not interested
 somewhat interested
 very interested

N. Education:

53) What is the highest grade of school that you completed?

- Circle one: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
 13 Some college or post-high school
 14 Junior College
 15 4 Year College graduate
 16 Post-graduate

- 54) Have you ever completed a vocational training course? Yes No
 79a) If **YES**, what kind? _____
- 55) Have you ever attended a business school? Yes No

O. Mental Health

56) Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental or emotional problem?

- Yes No

56a) If **YES**, have you experienced any symptoms of this diagnosis within the past year?

- Yes No

57) Have you ever been prescribed medications for mental or emotional problems?

- Yes No

57a) If **YES**, Are you **currently taking** any psychotropic (psychiatric) medications?

- Yes No

58) Have you been hospitalized for psychiatric problems during the past year?

- Yes No

58a) If **NO**, have you **ever been** hospitalized for psychiatric reasons?

Yes No

59) Have you ever seen a counselor for help dealing with your emotions or stress?

Yes No

60) Have friends or family ever expressed concern about your mental health?

Yes No

Answered by the Interviewer

61) Does the interviewee act/converse in a **mentally unstable** manner?

Yes No

P. Religion

62) Do you consider yourself a religious person? Yes No

63) Are you a member of a religious faith? Yes No

64) Do you regularly attend a religious service? Yes No

65) Were you raised as a child in a religious home? Yes No

66) Has your faith increased or decreased during your homeless experience? Yes No

Children

67) Do you have children? Yes No

67a) How many? _____

67b) Do you have any children living **with you today**? Yes No (if No stop)

67c) How many? _____

67d) What is the gender of the child(ren)?

Child 1 Male Female

Child 2 Male Female

Child 3 Male Female

Child 4 Male Female

Child 5 Male Female

58a) If **NO**, have you **ever been** hospitalized for psychiatric reasons?

Yes No

59) Have you ever seen a counselor for help dealing with your emotions or stress?

Yes No

60) Have friends or family ever expressed concern about your mental health?

Yes No

Answered by the Interviewer

61) Does the interviewee act/converse in a **mentally unstable** manner?

Yes No

P. Religion

62) Do you consider yourself a religious person? Yes No

63) Are you a member of a religious faith? Yes No

64) Do you regularly attend a religious service? Yes No

65) Were you raised as a child in a religious home? Yes No

66) Has your faith increased or decreased during your homeless experience? Yes No

Children

67) Do you have children? Yes No

67a) How many? _____

67b) Do you have any children living **with you today**? Yes No (if No stop)

67c) How many? _____

67d) What is the gender of the child(ren)?

Child 1 Male Female

Child 2 Male Female

Child 3 Male Female

Child 4 Male Female

Child 5 Male Female

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This survey was designed and developed for use by the Institute for Urban Research and Development